

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 27, 2014

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 10, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1993

Introduced by Assembly Member Fox

February 20, 2014

An act to ~~amend Section 32283 of, and to add Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 48960) to Chapter 6 of Part 27 of Division 4 of Title 2 of, add Section 32283.5 to the Education Code, relating to pupils.~~

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1993, as amended, Fox. Pupils: ~~bullying; teacher training; bullying.~~

~~(1) Existing~~

Existing law, the Interagency School Safety Demonstration Act of 1985, among other things, requires the Department of Justice and the State Department of Education to contract with one or more professional trainers to coordinate statewide workshops for school districts, county offices of education, and schoolsite personnel, and in particular school principals, to assist them in the development of their respective school safety and crisis response plans, and provide training in the prevention of bullying, as defined.

~~This bill would require the bullying prevention training provided under this provision to include, but not necessarily be limited to, restorative justice and promotion of upstander behavior, as defined.~~

~~(2) Existing law, the Safe Place to Learn Act, requires the State Department of Education to assess whether local educational agencies~~

have adopted a policy that prohibits discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying based on specified characteristics. Existing law also authorizes a school to suspend or recommend for expulsion a pupil who has engaged in an act of bullying.

This bill would require a school district to provide training on the topic of bullying to every teacher employed by the school district, and would require every teacher employed by the school district on or after July 1, 2015, to complete the training. By imposing additional requirements on school districts, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

(3) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

This bill would require the department to develop an online training module to assist all school staff, school administrators, parents, pupils, and community members in increasing their knowledge of the dynamics of bullying and cyberbullying, as specified.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: ~~yes~~-no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 32283.5 is added to the Education Code,
2 to read:

3 32283.5. The department shall develop an online training
4 module to assist all school staff, school administrators, parents,
5 pupils, and community members in increasing their knowledge of
6 the dynamics of bullying and cyberbullying. The online training
7 module shall include, but is not limited to, identifying an act of
8 bullying or cyberbullying, and implementing strategies to address
9 bullying and cyberbullying.

10 ~~SECTION 1. Section 32283 of the Education Code is amended~~
11 ~~to read:~~

12 ~~32283. (a) The Department of Justice and the State Department~~
13 ~~of Education, in accordance with Section 32262, shall contract~~
14 ~~with one or more professional trainers to coordinate statewide~~

workshops for school districts, county offices of education, and schoolsite personnel, and in particular school principals, to assist them in the development of their respective school safety and crisis response plans, and provide training in the prevention of bullying as defined in subdivision (r) of Section 48900. The bullying prevention training provided under this section shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, restorative justice and promotion of upstander behavior. As used in this section, “upstander” means a person who recognizes a bully-victim situation and acts in a manner that is responsible and helpful to the situation.

(b) The Department of Justice and the State Department of Education shall work in cooperation with regard to the workshops coordinated and presented pursuant to the contracts.

(c) Implementation of this section shall be contingent upon the availability of funds in the annual Budget Act.

SEC. 2. Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 48960) is added to Chapter 6 of Part 27 of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Education Code, to read:

Article 3.5. Bullying

48960. For purposes of this article, “bullying” has the same meaning as set forth in paragraph (1) of subdivision (r) of Section 48900.

48961. A school district shall provide training on the topic of bullying to every teacher employed by the school district. Every teacher employed by a school district on or after July 1, 2015, shall be required to complete the training.

SEC. 3. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.